

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE REVIEW

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

24 - 27 OCTOBER 1964

~~TOP SECRET~~

27 October 1964

1. USSR: The new leadership appears intent on reassuring everyone that nothing has really changed.

Delegations have been sent to Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. Brezhnev and Kosygin have met with Gomulka. Several western Communist party delegations have gone or are going to Moscow. Soviet diplomats around the world continue to spread the word that no major policy changes, particularly with regard to Peiping, are in store.

Last Friday, Premier Kosygin, in the only interview so far granted Ambassador Kohler, echoed the public statements on the continuity of Soviet policy. He was particularly adamant on Moscow's refusal to meet its UN arrearages. Kohler reports that Kosygin's careful hewing to the public line suggests the new leaders will indeed stick to the "collective" approach, at least for the present.

On the domestic front, the Soviet press appears to be trying to assure the Soviet people that economic goals, especially a higher standard of living, remain unchanged.

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2. South Vietnam: To no one's surprise, the new government's formation is taking longer than scheduled.

We did get a new Chief of State, Phan Khac Suu, a man acceptable to most Vietnamese factions, but whose health is bad and whose command of the situation is uncertain. His most important decision, the choice of a prime minister, is still being delayed.

Suu is now negotiating with Buddhist and Catholic leaders and with Generals Khanh and Minh. This may take another week.

The Khanh government continues to act as a caretaker. Khanh and his supporters also will probably carry a lot of weight in the new government, judging from the quality of Suu's reported top candidates for prime minister. Huong, the mayor of Saigon, is in poor health like Suu; Interior Minister Vien is Khanh's uncle; and the third prospect, Ho Van Nhut, is a man of little experience.

General Minh, nearly everyone's early bet for Chief of State, now seems destined for relative obscurity.

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3. Cambodia - South Vietnam: There have been four serious border incidents during the past week, and more may be in store.

Two of the incidents involved Vietnamese planes in over-the-border air strikes against Cambodian villages. The Cambodians were also mixed up in an exchange between the Vietnamese and the Viet Cong, in which US Army Captain Towery was killed.

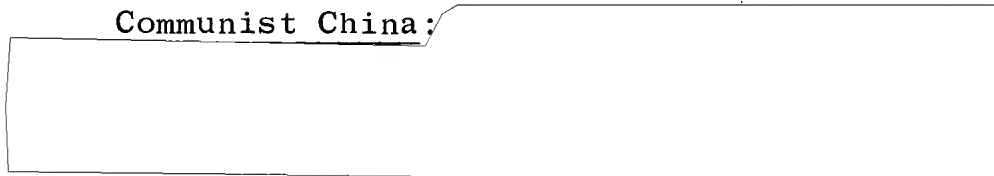
Last, the Cambodians shot down a C-123 which had wandered over the border in error. The plane crashed in South Vietnam, killing eight Americans.

Sihanouk has warned--not for the first time--that the next "aggressive act" against his country will mean a diplomatic break with the US and Cambodian recognition of Hanoi and the South Vietnamese rebels. He has also threatened "reprisals." The Cambodian armed forces are on increased alert, and more troops and artillery have been sent to the border area.



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4. Communist China:



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5. Taiwan - Communist China: Peiping's nuclear success has sparked new Nationalist demands for US help against the Communist regime.

The Nationalists are saying [redacted]
[redacted] the Communists must be crushed before they achieve a nuclear weapons capability.

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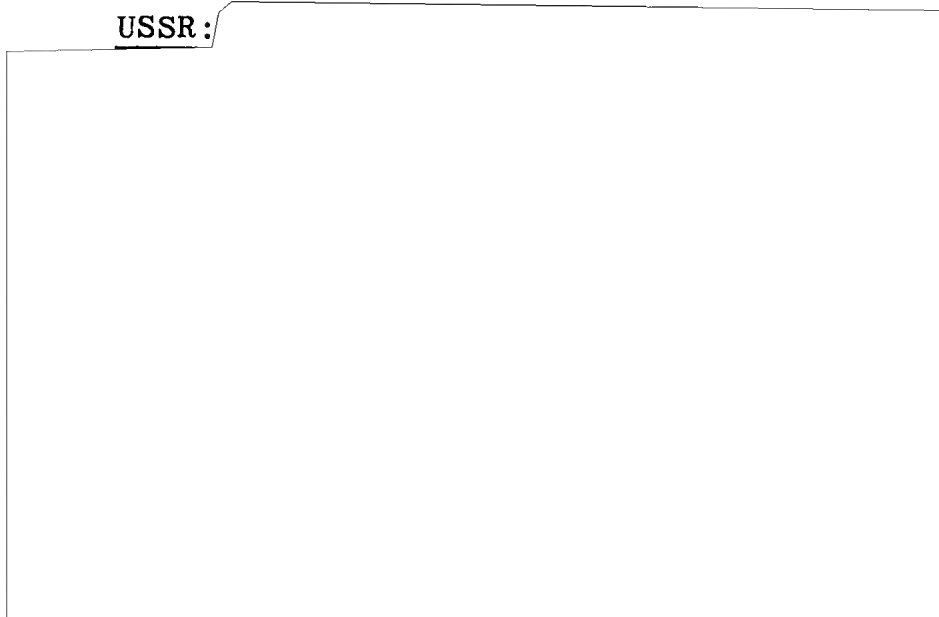
Our embassy has noted signs of a feeling among the Nationalist military that a "do or die" effort should be made against the mainland, even without US help. To bolster morale, the government may step up its commando raids on the mainland coast.

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USSR:

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7. Bolivia: Serious riots occurred in at least three Bolivian cities on Monday, and the demonstrators were reported out in strength in La Paz again on Tuesday morning. We have a late report that student rioters have sacked and burned the USIS center in Santa Cruz.

The students, who usually start such affairs, have been joined by tin miners, factory workers, and various leftist elements. The government has called on the militia to support local security forces. So far the demonstrations have been fairly well contained, but this may not hold.

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[redacted] the disturbances have been encouraged by Bolivia's army chief, General Ovando, who hopes to follow them up with a military coup against President Paz. The attitude of Vice President Barrientos, who has support in the military, is not clear. [redacted] he might use this support to settle his feud with Paz.

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8. Congo: The government is still holding the military initiative.

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A rebel threat may be shaping up north of Bukavu. The Congo Army garrison at Beni, about 200 miles above Bukavu, has pulled out and is retreating south. Government reinforcements are being sent, and air strikes against the advancing rebels were carried out on Sunday.

Below Bukavu, Congo Army troops and mercenaries have met unexpectedly well-organized resistance from the rebels. [redacted]

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Elsewhere the rebel position continues to deteriorate. Food and other supplies are short, and in some areas the local population appears restive.

Stanleyville may be a different story. Recent reports indicate that the rebels have restored some measure of stability after more than a month of near chaos. Apparently "President" Gbenye, "Foreign Minister" Kanza, and "General" Olenga are now together in the capital for the first time. We suspect that their gathering may have some connection with the OAU's special commission on the Congo.

9. Cyprus: On Monday the Kyrenia road was opened and the rotation of Turkish troops was begun, thus removing two immediate threats to continued quiet on the island.

Progress toward a lasting solution, however, is still stymied. Greek and UN officials now appear to agree that, without an early declaration of enosis, Makarios will win out as the head of an independent, demilitarized, neutral Cyprus.

The ability of Athens and General Grivas to influence events on the island continues to decline. If quiet continues, the need for Greek troops will diminish. If they are withdrawn, pro-enosis elements will have no force to back them up against the Communists and others favoring complete independence.

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Galo-Plaza is expected to make his report to U Thant sometime in December. He favors enosis, but cannot recommend the dissolution of a UN member. Therefore, his recommendations will have to be made within the context of independence. He still believes, however, that Makarios would support enosis if he could appear as its sponsor.

This would still leave the Turks to mollify, which would take larger concessions than Greece has yet offered.

10. Sudan: President Abboud and his military regime have bent a little in the wake of several days of violent public demonstrations. At this stage, however, it is doubtful that they intend to let any real power slip out of their hands.

To appease public demands for a return to civilian government, the old, mixed military-civilian cabinet has been fired.

[redacted] it is unlikely that Abboud is ready yet to give civilians any cabinet posts of major importance. He will probably continue to rely on support from the armed forces, which still appear solidly behind his regime.

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11. Panama: Robles is running into stiff opposition to his badly needed economic reform program.

Various entrenched interests are being joined by the followers of Robles' defeated opponent, Arnulfo Arias, who hope to discredit the new President.

12. Japan:

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The two leading candidates, Olympics Minister Ichiro Kono and party stalwart Eisaku Sato, are bitter, longtime enemies. Ikeda, who still controls one of the party's major cliques, at one time leaned toward Kono. Kono served as deputy premier during Ikeda's trip abroad last year.

The fact that during his long illness Ikeda did not appoint Kono again suggests that the former prime minister may now prefer Sato.

13. Cuba - Latin America: [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] Havana is working 50X1
on holding a conference of Latin American Com-
munist parties in Cuba next month. The business
of the meeting is to be the formulation of
a common policy on the Sino-Soviet rift. [redacted] 50X1

14. UK-Rhodesia: [redacted] 50X1

London's ultimatum, delivered on Sunday,
warned Smith that, if he does not call a halt,
there will be economic sanctions imposed [redacted] 50X1

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15. Gabon: President Mba's brutal excesses apparently have proved to be more than his French masters can take. The French have been almost his sole support since the abortive coup attempt last February, but late last week they hustled him onto a plane for Paris. He may have no return ticket.

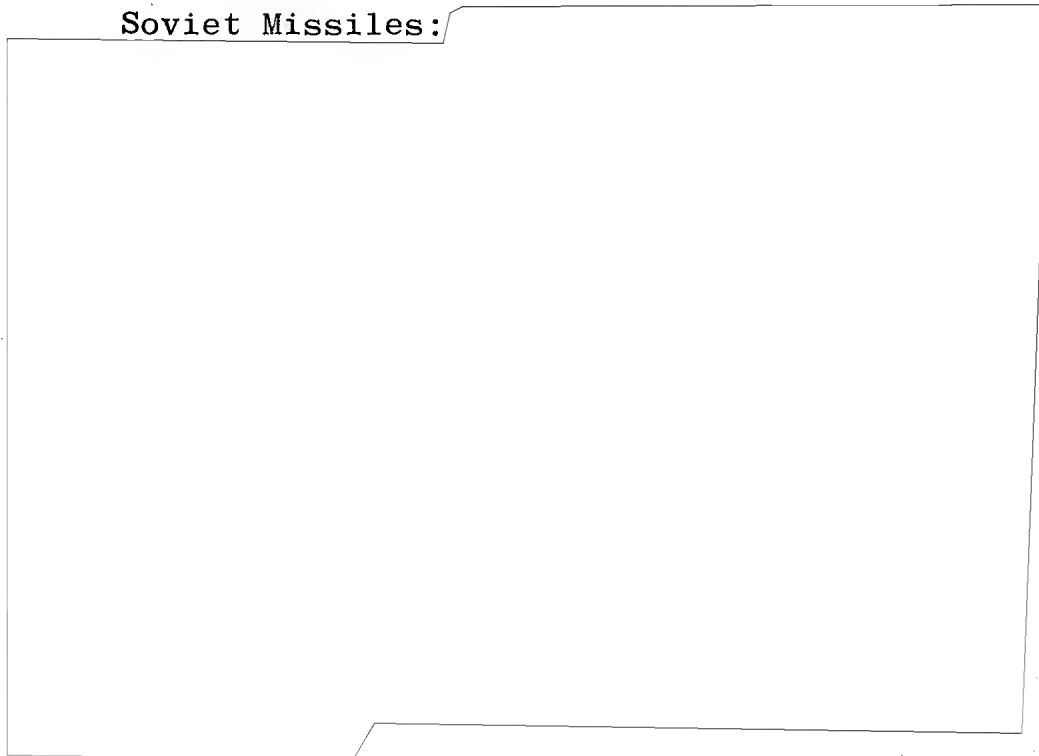
The French were apparently able to stomach beatings and public humiliation of Mba's political opponents; but when his goons began attacking French citizens as well as other Europeans, the French pounced on him.

What the next step will be is unclear. The French have vital economic interests in Gabon and will fight hard to keep the upper hand in any new political arrangement. Their extended forbearance with Mba, however, has used up a good deal of their political credit in the country.

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Soviet Missiles:

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Communist China: The Chinese Communists

[redacted]
[redacted] test [redacted] a surface-to-surface missile.

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[redacted] mission [redacted] disclosed a 70-foot missile erected at one of the pads at the Shuangchengtzu missile test center on 18 October.

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[redacted]

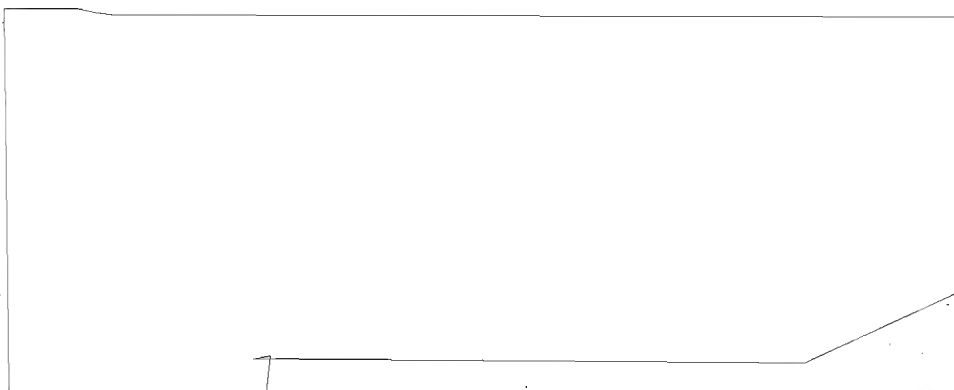
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The size suggests a missile on the order of the Soviet SS-3 or SS-4. We cannot be sure whether the missile is one provided by the USSR before 1960 or a missile fabricated at least in part by the Chinese.

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